

Graveley Environment Group AGM

Minutes of meeting held on 28th January 2014 at 7.30pm
at The Grange, 31 High Street Graveley

1. Present –Joanna Bottomley, Fiona Hutton, Maxine Tricker, Janet Firth, Danielle Galvan and Sal Jarvis

Apologies – from Helen Lumley

2. The Minutes of the previous meeting and AGM were reviewed and accepted.
3. Election of Officers took place. Persons present were asked if anyone would like to take over as Officers. Joanna was nominated for re-election as chairperson by Sal and seconded by Fiona. Janet was nominated for re-election as secretary by Joanna and seconded Fiona. Helen was nominated by Joanna for re-election as treasurer and seconded by Fiona.
4. A review of income and expenditure for 2013 had been prepared by Helen. The balance available at the beginning of 2013 was £1906.36 and at year end was £1625.12. Expenditure was mostly on plants for the High Street central reservations and for the pond. Graveley Parish Council provided funding for Anglia in Bloom.

A summary of activities in 2013 was given. This includes the planting of wildflower turf on the corner of Church Lane and High Street, maintenance of central reservations, pond plants, Anglia In Bloom entry and printing and distribution of footpaths leaflet. Anglia In Bloom was successful but it created a lot of work so it will not be repeated in 2014.

5. Future plans suggested for 2014:
 - Trim and weed wildflower turf. (*Volunteers*) Thank Desiree for watering. (*Maxine*)
 - Central reservations –additional planting as required (using Helen’s list of suitable plants). (*Volunteers*)
 - Apply for P3 money for (1) aggregate/clinker to repair the bottom of the Brooks Hill footpath near the church, (2) Repairs to footpath running behind the church, beside Gravely Hall farmyard, (3) Plastic box to hold Graveley Walks leaflets. (*Helen*).
 - Get a quotation for re-painting the railings by 2-4 High St, late 2014. (*Joanna*)
 - Possible crabapple tree or similar for corner Church lane/High St. Need to ask Desiree (*Maxine?*)

- Village community event eg coffee morning/fete/autumn veg swap. Ask Barry Crouch if he is planning anything (*Danielle*)
 - Ask Graveley School for the date of their fete and we can advertise it. (*Joanna*)
6. We have had a message from Hilary Thompson that St Mary's church would appreciate help from Graveley Environment Group for churchyard maintenance. We will not respond on behalf of the group but leave it to individuals to volunteer if they wish.

For the Minutes, we would like to take this opportunity to recognise the contribution that Gill Shenoy has made to Graveley Environment Group. In particular she worked very hard to make a successful application to the "Awards for All" lottery fund and she led the project to design and install the village signs in 2010. Josie Shenoy provided sketches for the design. Gill has also been involved in many community events organised by the Environment Group.

We would also like to apologise to Gill and Josie for the mix up that happened in late 2012/early 2013 when Josie started to prepare art work for a walks leaflet funded by the Parish Paths Partnership. Ultimately Graveley Environment Group did not use Josie's artwork for the Graveley Walks leaflet and we sincerely apologise for the misunderstandings and for the inconvenience caused.

Postscript:

1. Helen reminded me that Herts Highways specified that there should be no trees or shrubs planted on the triangle of land at the High St/Church Lane junction because it would obstruct the view for traffic.
2. Barry and Mandy Crouch have no plans, so far, to arrange any village fetes etc this year. The Environment Group might consider organising a community event in the summer.